

COMMUNITY NEWS

For second year in a row

Elba BOE members hear good news regarding graduation exam

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board again heard the good news that for the second year in a row 100% of the senior class is passing the graduation exam.

Teacher Jana Curtis was recognized by Superintendent Danny Weeks for her successful efforts in assisting students who had trouble with some portion of the required exam. Curtis

explained in detail to board members how she worked with small groups and sometimes with an individual student to improve their knowledge of a subject on the exam. She added that the lunchroom account balance is back up to normal this month after receipt of delayed federal funds.

Board members were recognized for their work and support of the local schools. Elba school board members are appointed by the city council and serve without financial compensation.

Weeks announced the Elba

Tiger band would be marching

in the inaugural parade in Montgomery on January 15th. It has been a number of years since the Elba band participated in this event.

A national reading conference will be held in the Elba schools on January 30th, according to Superintendent Weeks. Educators from as far away as New York will be in Elba to learn new, better and successful ways to teach reading.

Board members were invited to the high school gym and observe the new floor recently installed in the facility.

(Continued from Page One)

City of Elba
Sidewalk Art Festival
and Bike Ride
Saturday, Jan. 27th
TigerTown Park

The Sidewalk Art Festival will begin at 9 a.m., and each class from the school will have a section of sidewalk to create their artwork. Chalk will be provided, and artwork will be judged at 1 p.m.

Lunch will be served at Noon - free hamburgers and hotdogs.

The Bike Ride will begin at 1 p.m., and it will venture through the City of Elba. There will be a police escort in the front and back of the line for the entire ride.

The pageants are sponsored by Altrusa Int'l., Inc. of Jack, 100 and will be held on Saturday, March 31.

For more information, call 897-2287, after 6:00 p.m.

COFFEE COUNTY CORONER (ENTERPRISE DIVISION)
ROBERT PREACHERS accepted the oath of office last Thursday, Jan. 11, during a ceremony at the Coffee County Courthouse in Enterprise. Preachers was re-elected to the office during November's General Election. The oath of office was presented by Coffee County District Judge Paul Sherling. Unable to attend the ceremony was Coffee County Coroner (Elba Division) Marvin McLain. He also was re-elected during November's General Election and will continue his service to the people of Coffee County.

Parent orientation planned for Miss Zion Chapel pageants

A Parent Orientation for the Future Little Miss, Little Miss, Junior Miss and Miss Zion Chapel Pageants will be held Thursday, Feb. 1, at 6 p.m., at the Zion Chapel High School auditorium. Entry forms and registration packets will be distributed at the orientation.

Future Little Miss Zion Chapel contestants must be age four through grade Kindergarten. Little Miss Zion Chapel contestants must be in the first grade.

Junior Miss Zion Chapel contestants are in grades seven through ten. Miss Zion Chapel contestants must be between the ages of seventeen and twenty-one by October 1, 2007.

The pageants are sponsored by Altrusa Int'l., Inc. of Jack, 100 and will be held on Saturday, March 31.

For more information, call 897-2287, after 6:00 p.m.

Elba Florist
GIFTS & INTERIORS

316 Simmons St., Elba, AL 36322 897-2700

Bridal Registry

Mike and Wyndi Baker Henson
Christy Eubanks and Michael Laramore
Shay Johnson and Robert Caudley
Katie Vaughan and Stephen Harbin
De Ann Smith and Neil Grantham

In regards to other plans for his term as sheriff, Sutton simply said, "We are going after the criminals."

Late Tuesday afternoon, Ronnie Whitworth, chief deputy with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, said several arrests were made during the shakedown

as the search allegedly revealed some crack cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana. He said two shanks (items considered as weapons) were found.

Also, Whitworth said lots of

paraphernalia and contraband was confiscated during the shakedown.

Junior and Miss contestants at 7:45 p.m. Contestants are asked to come 30 minutes early for registration.

Contestants will be judged on beauty, poise and overall projection by a staff of three judges. Tiny Miss contestants will be judged on beauty and overall projection.

Entry fee should be submitted

with entry form and must be received no later than 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9 (practice night).

For questions, contact: Starla Amison at 897-8301 after 4 p.m.; Lowayne Parks at 897-3907; Ray Kyle at 897-5851 after 5 p.m.; Jim Dodd at 897-2835 or Herb Winters at 897-3095.

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For questions, contact: Starla Amison at 897-830

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Perry Goss

Tuesday was the day for Pitts Manufacturing and its attorney Terry Butts to go back before the bankruptcy judge in the ongoing saga to purchase the assets of Dorney Trailers. Well they went but alas they go back again next month. Apparently there are a couple of hang ups with the "asset purchase agreement" that must still be worked out. They go back before the bankruptcy judge on February 21st. The positive side of this is that the Pitts team members are "most hopeful and feel very good" that they can "proceed to resolve" (the lingering issues).

An often heard topic of discussion in Elba, Coffee County, Alabama and in fact across the nation is the price of gasoline. Most often that discussion is not nice. Elba is definitely not one of the communities used on the news when pointing out the lowest prices of gas in the area. In fact in recent months Elba has been on the high end of averages. Almost any Elba motorist can recite cheaper gas prices in other communities. What makes folks madder is to see a convenience store chain selling gas in nearby towns as much as 15¢ cheaper than they are selling it in Elba. Some drivers report as much as a 25¢ difference.

National experts agree that while prices go up and down according to the cost of crude oil, they usually go up instantly and drop more slowly than the crude prices. One recent report on this defended the retailers somewhat by citing their cost of handling credit cards, etc., but that still leaves open the reasoning for uneven pricing in adjoining communities. The experts write what Elba drivers voice... competition.

Then there is the Alabama case of a convenience store chain being sued by another chain for selling the precious fuel too cheaply! Something called the "Alabama Motor Fuel Marketing Act" makes it illegal to sell gasoline at a loss. It was put into Alabama law as protection for the "Mom and Pop" service stations which have now almost disappeared anyway. This lawsuit contends that the wholesale cost of the gas, plus electricity, processing the credit cards, etc. should all be considered in setting a selling price. We have seen parts of this law working before when disasters are declared and a "price-gouging" clause goes into effect preventing stations from overcharging. This is probably a first going the other way on pricing limits.

The clearing work in the old Beaver Dam Creek bed is continuing and it is looking good. More than one person has commented about the radical change this has made in the looks of the area. Many of us must admit we didn't envision such a change, even before the long term project is hardly off the ground. If Mayor James Grimes and the Elba city council are successful in efforts to complete the clearing and fully develop the area as a recreation park, it will one day be a "show-to-visitors" place in Elba.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Jan. 15, 2007, investigated the following incidents: two for disorderly conduct, four for domestic violence, one for accidental damage to a vehicle, one for public intoxication, two for harassment, three for criminal mischief, one for damage to a vehicle, two for theft of property and two for burglary.

The following arrests were made: one for domestic violence, two for disorderly conduct, one for public intoxication, one for negotiating a worthless non-negotiable instrument, one for failure to appear and one for unlawful distribution.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for speeding, one for no driver's license, one for no tailights and one for no insurance.

Domestic activity highlight for the week was as follows:

MONDAY, JAN. 15 - Domestic disturbance reported at 137 Plant Ave. (11:37 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at 1167 Morrow Ave. (11:14 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JAN. 16 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a grass fire on Platts Ditt Rd. (11:40 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on King Circle (11:55 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JAN. 18 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on Hwy. 125 (7:29 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JAN. 19 - Coffee

County EMS dispatched to 8193 Hwy. 87 (4:17 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 812 Cedar Lane Dr. (4:27 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 830 Harper Dr. (8:21 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1231 Jones Circle (11:51 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JAN. 20 - Domestic disturbance reported on Caroline St. (12:35 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1113 Martin Luther King Dr. (2:44 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on King Circle (3:02 a.m.); Wreck reported on Davis St. (11:17 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 84 E. at County Rd. 506 (8:44 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the vehicle fire on Hwy. 84 E. (8:47 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 21903 Hwy. 189 (4:54 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on Jackson St. (5:37 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on County Rd. 114 (11:19 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JAN. 23 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1223 Taylor Mill Oaks (10:18 a.m.).

Wachovia has a long and proud history of helping South Alabama and Elba area customers achieve their financial dreams.

At Wachovia, the employees care about the customer's financial success. For those who dream of owning a new home or car, saving for a child's college education or a comfortable retirement, starting a new business or improving the one already owned, Wachovia can help turn the possibilities into realities.

As the nation's fourth-largest bank holding company by assets, Wachovia offers some 15 million customers the vast resources, expertise, geographic reach and top of the line products and services to successfully manage their assets, grow their companies and transform their communities.

Wachovia offers some 3,400 financial centers in 21 states from Connecticut to California and the District of Columbia - 150 of which are in Alabama.

The financial institution also offers 5,200 automated teller machines and convenient banking by telephone and through the Internet.

The sales teams include financial specialists, brokers, wealth management advisors and commercial and small business relationship managers - available through the financial centers. Wachovia can also serve investing needs through Wachovia Securities, the third largest full-service brokerage firm in the United States and a network of offices in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

Whether the customer needs a traditional loan or a sophisticated financing option, a savings account or mutual fund, Smith, financial specialist; Wachovia employees always ask themselves one question - "What can I do today to make my customer's possibility a reality?"

At Wachovia, the employees also believe they have a responsibility to strengthen the cities and neighborhoods where they do business through a wide range of community programs and activities because they care about the community.

Board members for the Elba office are Bill Brunson, Charlie Hayes, Eddie Kelley and Jackie Windham.

Charlie Broadlove serves the local area as market president for Coffee, Pike and Dale counties.

In Elba, the Wachovia staff includes Tonya Jones, financial

survivors include his children, Melissa Rhoden, Anna Powell and Jerry Michael Davis, all of New Hope; his grandchildren, Cory Barr, Courtney Powell, Dale Rhoden and Tyler Rhoden; four sisters: Ann Wambles, Tracy Alm, Flora Harrell and Vela Danner, both of New Hope; Willie Smith, New Brockton, Ala.; three brothers: Robert Davis, Brundidge, Alfred Davis, Victoria, Colby Davis, Denver, Colo.; and a half brother: Ricky McDougal, Hamilton, Ga.

Billy Redd officiating. Burial will follow in the New Home Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Jan. 24, from 6-8 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home.

Survivors include her husband, Julius J. Hysmith; one son and a daughter-in-law, Andy and Renee Bradshaw; two granddaughters, Tiffany Bradshaw and Caitlin Bradshaw; her mother, Della Mae Weeks; and two brothers, Don Weeks and Jerry Weeks, all of Elba.

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LIFESTYLES

LBWCC/MacArthur Campus to have Job Fair in April

LBW Community College and the Covington County Economic Development Commission will sponsor a Job Fair on Tuesday, April 3, 2007 from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm at the LBWCC — MacArthur Campus Conference Center in Opp. The event will provide information to students and citizens of the surrounding area regarding employment opportunities as well as benefits and services available.

Any organization or business that would like to participate in the Job Fair, should contact Gail Trant (334) 222-7040 or Cindy Green (334) 493-5344.



Christopher Senn

Christopher Senn celebrates ninth birthday

Christopher Senn turned nine January 16th. He and his family went to a restaurant in Enterprise to eat the Saturday before his birthday. Then on Tuesday, his actual birthday, he had family over to share his birthday. They had pizza, subs, chips and dip, punch, cake and ice cream. Christopher said he enjoyed his party with his family and didn't want it to end.

Christopher's parents are Don and Terri Senn of Jack and his grandparents are Pat and Linda Senn and Doug and Nell Shiver, all of Jack.



Kelley Bryan

and

Shane Klase

on Saturday, the third of February

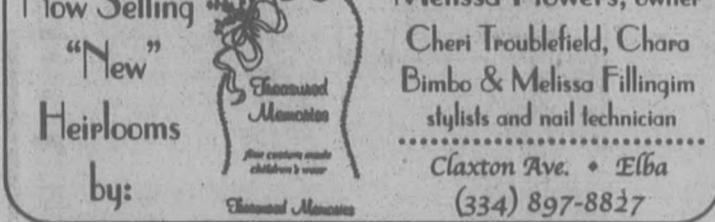
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100 South Main Street
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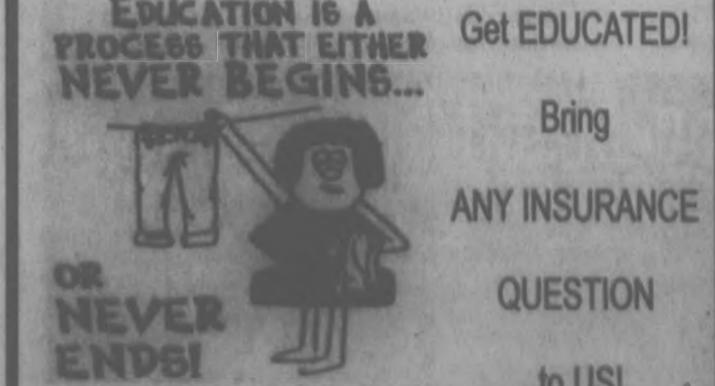
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Mr. Giles & Miss Jordan united in holy matrimony

Miss Kimberly Denise Jordan and Mr. Warren Barry Giles were united in marriage on September 2, 2006, at three o'clock in the afternoon at the Elba United Methodist Church, Elba, Alabama. Rev. James Pickron officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Jordan of Elba. She is the granddaughter of Onzie Davis and the late Ernest Davis of Paxton, Florida and Beatrice Fleming and the late Selma Henderson of Florida, Alabama.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Giles of Elba. He is the grandson of the late James and Edna Watford of Rome, Georgia and the late Hobart and Renee Giles of Huntsville, Alabama.

Swags of asparagus fern entwined in periwinkle satin bows decorated the entrance doors of the church. The registry and program attendants were Sequoia and Wyatt Jordan, nephews of the bride. As the guests arrived, they presented them with Wedding programs, which were designed by the groom. The wedding director was Midge Watford of Rome, Georgia, Aunt of the groom.

The altar was complimented with massive arrangements of blue delphinium, pink carnations, larkspur, roses, daisies, and Queen Anne's lace, which were held by columns on either side of the altar. The communion table also held an arrangement of like flowers and large ferns were placed on columns of the altar and throughout the choir loft.

A prenuptial program of music was presented by Mrs. Kenneth Baker, pianist. Mr. Carnell Barron, soloist presented an A'Capella rendition of "Angel." Mrs. Dawn Hicks and Mr. Kevin Cobb presented a duet titled "When God Made You."

The bride was presented for marriage by her father, Will Jordan, and given in marriage by her mother and father. She wore a formal gown of white satin with a sweetheart halter and corset bodice. The gown featured a nulle skirt trimmed in white satin, and the entire gown was accented with beaded Alencon lace appliqués. The bride's hair was styled by Britley Parker and she wore a satin trimmed veil to accent the gown. She carried a bouquet of blue hydrangeas and was flanked by hand-tied with white organza ribbon. Honoring the groom's family tradition the bride also carried an ornate lace handkerchief, which had been part of the groom and his sisters christening outfit and had been carried by the groom's sister, Amy, on her wedding day. The bride also honored the memory of the groom's great

Kaleb is the son of Sara and Keri Mitchell and is the grandson of Catherine Miller and Pamela Mitchell, all of Elba, and John Mitchell of Columbiana, Alabama. He is the great-grandson of Estella and MC Lawrence of Elba and Ollie Mac Mitchell of Columbiana.

EOCC announces
fall Semester
honor roll

Enterprise-Ozark Community College (EOCC) officially announces the names of students achieving recognition through the 2007 fall semester honor roll.

Twenty-six EOCC students earned Dean's Academic Honor Roll certificates at the end of fall semester. To be recognized on this list, students must earn 46 or more semester hours while maintaining a cumulative 4.0 grade-point-average.

Dean's Academic honorees include Jill E. Anderson of Elba.

Seventy-eight EOCC students earned President's List certificates. These students maintained a 4.0 grade-point-average during the fall semester with a course load of at least 12 semester hours.

President's List honorees include Cayla M. Keys of New Brockton, Jill E. Andrews, Whitney B. Donaldson, Zachary L. Odum, and Deborah A. Siler of Elba.

The Dean's List, also compiled at the end of every semester, recognizes full-time students (scheduling 12 or more hours), who maintain a minimum of 3.50 GPA, but under 4.0 GPA, during the semester. The 2006 full semester list of 12 students includes Kayla B. Keel from New Brockton, Aaron L. Harrelson and Todd H. Kelley from Elba and Candace D. Patterson from Kinston.



Mr. & Mrs. Warren Barry Giles

grandmother Lillian Lewtus by carrying an English six piece set of the bride's cousin, April Nance of Flora, Alabama. The groom's table was a chocolate table, which held a Star Wars chocolate basket weave cake made and decorated by Edith Calhoun. The couple enjoyed family, friends, fellowship, and dancing. Before leaving for their honeymoon, the couple released live butterflies, which signified new beginnings and held a special meaning to the couple.

Following the reception the bride and groom left for a wedding trip to Williamsburg, Virginia. The bride and groom were presented with a check for \$500 in Gary Allen, Jason Ragsdale (Director of Children's Home), Jerry Kirkland, and Huey Allen. Others in the association not pictured are Wendell Sanders, Garrett Griffin, Gabe Martin, Joyce Tew, Rex Wilson and Huber Lawson.

The COFFEE-GENEVA COUNTY Life Underwriters Association tried to make Christmas a little better for some local children. They have been making donations at Christmas for many years. Whether it be a turkey for the holidays or money to buy Christmas gifts for those without. This year they made donations to the Coffee and Geneva HRDC to adopt a family for Christmas. They also have made a donation for the past two years to the Wigrass Children's Home. This home takes in abused and neglected children. Shown presenting a check for \$500 is Gary Allen, Jason Ragsdale (Director of Children's Home), Jerry Kirkland, and Huey Allen. Others in the association not pictured are Wendell Sanders, Garrett Griffin, Gabe Martin, Joyce Tew, Rex Wilson and Huber Lawson.

LBW Community College to offer CNA Course February 19-March 9

LBW Community College will offer a three-week, 98-hour Nursing Assistant Course (CNA) at Wiregrass Medical Center in Geneva February 19-March 9, 2007. Classes meet Monday thru Friday from 7 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The course is offered to individuals 18 years of age or older. Jobs are readily available in the surrounding area for certified nursing assistants who can call if needed.

Registrations are currently being accepted for the class. Possible financial assistance is available for those who qualify for the Workforce Investment Act or WIA.

For more information regarding the course, contact the Enterprise Careerlink Office located at 2021 Boll Weevil Circle inside the Employment Office in Enterprise or phone (334) 393-3783. Individuals may call collect if needed.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Round & About With Eria - 897-2006

MATTHEW J. SNELL

Army Reserve Pvt. Matthew J. Snell has graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military fitness, first aid, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experiencing use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

Snell is the son of Lee and Melanie Snell of County Road 637, Elba, Ala. He is a 2006 graduate of Kinston High School.

SCRIPTURE: John 6:34-40

THINKING OF YOU, PRAY-

ING FOR YOU: The Carlisle

Family, Annie Pearl Carpenter,

Frank Phillips Jr., Corine

Daniels, Susie M. Williams,

Mary A. Hooks

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Dimitri Schecko, Crittenden-

January 26, Randy Caldwell-

January 26, Kiko Logan-

January 26, Tia Sherrin Kelley-

January 27, Larry Polmar-

January 28 (in Memory Of),

Louella J. Polmar, January 29

THE ANNUAL USHER'S

ANNIVERSARY of The

Friendship Baptist Church,

Glenwood, Ala., will be held

Sunday, February 4, 2007 at 2

:30 p.m. The theme will be

Psalm 84:10. The speaker will be

Rev. Jonas Rogers, pastor of Goshen

First Baptist Church, Goshen,

Ala. The Homeward Bound Quartet and The Old Southern Gospel

Club will be singing.

CLUB BRIEFS

PIETS OF ALPHA PI CHI

SORORITY MEET

The Piets of Alpha Pi Chi

Sorority on December 18th

at Fountain of Living Water

Ministries. The meeting was

called to order by Rush Captain

Sylvia Terrell. Prayer was

offered by Piet Pam Bethesa

Rush Captain Terrell briefed the

Piets on individual and group

projects that are to be accom-

plished during the pledge peri-

od. The Piets will participate in

various community service proj-

ects throughout the city to

include schools and churches.

Prior to induction, each Piet

must successfully complete an

examination covering pertinent

information about the National

Alpha Pi Chi Sorority. Time

during the meeting was spent in

preparation for this examina-

tion. The piets enjoyed refresh-

ments and a time of fellowship.

The piets are Tramaine Turner,

Lasandra Kilow, Pamela

Bethesa, Lavonne Liggett,

Zwana Brown, and Valarie

Brown.

THE ONE HUNDRED

SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

of Atlantic Lodge #83 and the

Ninety-Third Anniversary of

Buna Mae Chapter #342 will be

held at Spring Hill Baptist

Church, Dozier, Ala., January

28, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. Rev.

Wendell Williams is the

pastor.

The piets will participate in

various community service proj-

ects throughout the city to

include schools and churches.

Prior to induction, each Piet

must successfully complete an

examination covering pertinent

information about the National

SCHOOLS

Journalism Spotlight

by Yolanda Terry



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Ashton Rodriguez
& Ciara Burrows

Miss Elba pageant set for Saturday, Jan. 27, at E.H.S.

by Sydney Brunson

This week's Journalism Spotlight features Ashton Rodriguez.

Ashton, or as his friends like to call him, A-Rod, is the 16-year-old son of Kerry Rodriguez. His hobbies include going to the movies and hanging with friends.

Ashton's clubs and activities include serving as Key Club treasurer, Student Council representative, EHS Ambassador, Trumpet section leader, Band First Lieutenant, and "Tiger Tales" editor. His favorite thing about journalism is doing yearbook work.

Ashton describes himself as reliable. After graduation, he plans to pursue a degree in history, but he is undecided about the college he will attend.

Visit the Elba City Schools website at: www.elbaed.com

Preservation Hall Jazz Band



The Coffee County Arts Alliance presents the Preservation Hall Jazz Band. The band performs New Orleans Jazz tours around the world and has appeared at many famous venues, including Carnegie Hall (NYC), Symphony Hall (Boston), Monterey Jazz Festival (CA) and the Red Sea Jazz Festival (Israel).

Jan. 30, 2007 - 7:30 pm • Enterprise High School

Presented by Coffee County Arts Alliance and Martin-Colley Drugs

Gold Corporate Sponsor - City of Enterprise

TICKETS —

ENTERPRISE	ELBA
• David's Wear Gate Beauty Salon (406-1517)	• Bradley Florist & Gift Shop (897-8422)
• The Framery (347-7800)	• FORT RUCKER
• The Printing Press Inc. (566-4060)	• ITR (255-2997)
NEW BROCKTON • New Brockton Florist (894-6737)	• DOOTHAN
This performance is made possible in part by a grant from The Alabama State Council on the Arts and The National Endowment for the Arts www.coffeecountyartsalliance.com	• Weavers (673-8285)

NOTICE

CITY PRIVILEGE LICENSES ARE DUE

JANUARY 1, 2007

And Will Be Delinquent

FEBRUARY 1, 2007

There Will Be A Penalty Fee Plus Interest
Charged If Not Paid By Due Date!

Municipal Ordinances require that all persons engaged in any exhibition, trade, business, vocation, occupation, profession or calling or doing any action specified within the corporate limits/police jurisdiction of THE CITY OF ELBA are subject to a BUSINESS LICENSE.

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WAYNE GRANTHAM
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Even when the line is down.

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SPORTS

Views From....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Views From....
THE PRESSBOX
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie and her friends have been heading out most Saturday afternoons looking for prom dresses, and while I don't have any problems with her looking at various dresses, I hope she remembers since Dad is going to foot the bill he has final refusal on what she wears. In years past I actually got to make a trip with one of the girls to watch her model the dresses, and if I have my way that tradition will continue. Or at least I hope it does!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** It was a winless week at Elba High last week in basketball as the varsity boys, varsity girls and junior varsity boys all lost two games. The Tigers dropped big losses to area standouts with an overall record of 9-12, while the Lady Tigers saw their late-season surge fizzle out as the girls slipped to 5-13 on the season, and the junior varsity also lost twice and watched its record dip to 8-7. With two weeks left in the regular season the time has come for both varsity teams to settle down and play with a higher level of intensity and determination. If they don't, the season will end sooner than many had hoped.

*** A look around the area finds only the Brantley Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs in good shape heading down the home stretch. The Bulldogs improved their record to 14-3 last week with two big area wins and all of the sudden appear to be ready to make a run at the state tournament, while the Lady Bulldogs moved into double digits in the win column and also have a solid shot at making it at least regionals. For the rest of the area teams it looks like a rocky road ahead as New Brockton must play its best to emerge from a tough area, Kinston must regroup and rededicate itself to have any hopes, and Zion Chapel must keep the faith and believe that anything can happen on any given night. With two weeks left, it looks like the best bet to make it out of the area from this trio are the Kinston Lady Bulldogs.

*** If the state high school basketball standings are correct, it looks like South Alabama could be very well represented when the post-season action tips off in early-February. Enterprise has been ranked high all season in 6A circles and should be a team to be reckoned with, while Andalusia has been ranked all season in 4A, Abbeville is a 3A power, Barbour County is near the top in 2A, and in the 1A ranks Brantley has slowly moved its way near the top. In girls division, Eufaula has been a top 10 team throughout the season in 5A, Ashford and Opp are both among the state's elite in 4A, Samson and Geneva are ranked 1-2 in 2A, and in 1A circles Pleasant Home and Providence Christian are both rated high. One bad game can end a team's season once the post-season party gets underway, but this season it looks like there will be a lot of local interest as the teams battle for a spot at regionals.

*** Basketball season may be winding down, but that only means baseball and softball season is just around the corner. At Elba High, Coach Mike Bucklewe, his players and their parents have been hard at work for weeks getting the field in shape, painting the dugouts and building covered batting cages. The team is also in the middle of pre-season conditioning and throwing, and next week the team will hit the field and get to work getting ready for the season opener. The same is true for the girls softball team, as a new covered batting cage is nearing completion and the infield is getting a new surface. Seasons never end at the high school level, the balls only change sizes and shapes.

*** The gate at Hawkins-Williams Park has been locked the past few weeks as work nears completion on a major drainage project that should improve drainage on all three fields. In years past the fields seemed to hold water, and after a big rain the infiels resembled small ponds. Drain pipes have now been installed to carry the water off the middle field, while extensive shaping has taken place on all three fields, and sand drain lines have been cut into two of the fields to help move the water to the outfield. The work won't solve all the problems, but it should help tremendously when the rainy season arrives and the kids want to play ball.

*** In closing, the college recruiting season will hit its peak next week with national signing day and fans from state schools will be anxious to see what the future will hold as the nation's top high school football players commit. Early reports put Auburn among the nation's top in its incoming class, while Alabama is working hard overhauling its coaching change and hopes to finish with a bang. It really takes a few years to judge just what kind of class this group will be, but the fans take it very seriously and hunt the papers and the internet for any news.

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On the basketball court

A winless week at Elba High

Tigers suffer two area losses

Calhoun 66 Elba 45

The Elba Tigers hosted Calhoun last Tuesday night and put up a fight for three quarters before falling 66-45, in an area contest.

Elba came out ready to play against the area leaders from Lowndes County and jumped out to an early 4-3 lead on baskets by Trey Belcher and Bobby Hudson, only to see Calhoun go on a 12-3 run midway through the opening quarter to grab a 7-7 lead. The Tigers' Frank Morris converted from the free-throw line and later added a lay-up to help Elba cut the Calhoun lead to 15-10, and Morris drilled a long three-pointer at the buzzer as Elba pulled within 15-13 at the end of the stanza.

Elba's rally didn't carry over to the second quarter, however, as the Tigers went almost six minutes without scoring a point and watched as Calhoun raced out to a 26-13 advantage. Trey Belcher hit two free-throws to snap Elba's long scoring drought. However, the damage had already been done and at half-time Elba went trailing 30-20.

Elba matched buckets with Calhoun for much of the third quarter, and behind the play of Jordan McBride and Trey Belcher pulled within 38-29 with 4:37 left in the stanza. Calhoun extended its lead back out to 41-29 with 4:25 remaining, but Elba tightened its defense late in the quarter as the Tigers cut the deficit to 43-28 with .31 left on the clock, but the Bulldogs scored the stanza's final three points and owned a 46-28 lead over Elba with only eight minutes remaining.

Frank Morris and Belcher helped the Tigers close to within 48-33 with 5:23 remaining in the game. However, an 8-0 Pike County run enabled the Bulldogs to regain command at 56-33, and Elba never challenged in the closing minutes and absorbed the 66-45 home court loss.

Frank Morris scored 13 points to lead Elba, while Andrews led Pike County with 20 points.

PC	10	17	19	19	- 65
EL	13	7	13	12	- 45

Pike County (65): Carlton 9, Carlisle 3, Bailey 8, Johnson 8, Youngblood 5, Andrews 20, Wilson 3, T. Wilson 1, Starks 8, Elba (44): Hudson 2, Respress 6, Mitchell 2, Bryant 6, Belcher 2, Morris 13, Tillis 4, McBride 6.

JV Tigers suffer two losses

Calhoun 52 Elba 30

The Elba JV Tigers battled Calhoun on even terms for the opening two quarters, but saw their chance of pulling off an upset win fall far short as they were outscored 33-12 in the second half and suffered a 52-30 defeat.

The Tigers trailed only 11-8 after the opening stanza and closed to within 20-18 by the end of the half, but saw Calhoun go on a 14-1 run in the third-quarter to take command and never recovered as they suffered the big home court loss.

Sandarius Reed scored 14 points to lead Elba, while Davison scored 14 points to lead Calhoun.

CA	15	15	13	23	- 66
EL	13	7	13	12	- 45

Calhoun (66): McColl 7, Davison 8, Garret 7, Caldwell 16, Davison 9, Means 3, Davis 12, Williams 2, Stokes 2, Elba (45): Hudson 3, McBride 6.

Calhoun 52 Elba 30

The Elba JV Tigers saw a big lead evaporate under a furious fourth quarter Pike County rally as they dropped a hard fought 45-26 decision, in Elba.

The Tigers jum out to an early 12-5 lead and carried a 30-23 lead into the final stanza, only to see Pike County close the game with a 22-6 rally as the visiting Bulldogs pulled out the wild 45-36 win.

Dionta Reynolds scored 14 points to lead Elba, while Stell sparked Pike County with 15 points.

CA	9	13	12	11	- 46
EL	3	6	14	14	- 37

Calhoun (46): Alexander 12, Grant 4, Means 5, Reed 2, James 7, F. Smith 7, Williams 4, Baker 4, W. Smith 2.

Elba (37): Henderson 3, Carpenter 6, Craighead 1, Thigpen 15, Oliver 1, Carney 7, Caldwell 3.

Elba (36): Reynolds 14, Phillips 9, M. Reynolds 9, Reed 4.

Elba (30): Hammonds 4,

Pike County (57): Williams 4, Foster 6, Lamprey 17, K. Foster 6, Passion 2, Hughes 7, Flowers 15.

Elba (36): Henderson 5, Carpenter 5, Thigpen 22, Carney 4.

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The Elba Clipper

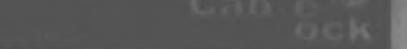
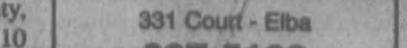
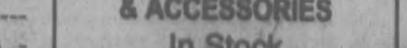
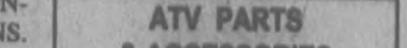
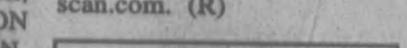
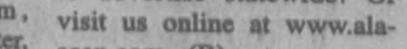
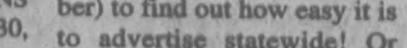
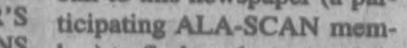
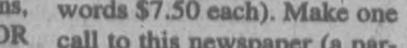
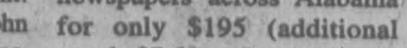
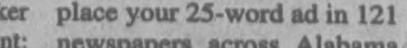
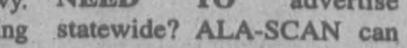
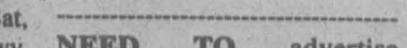
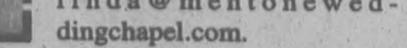
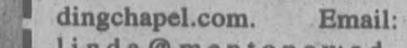
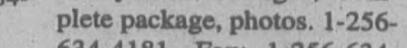
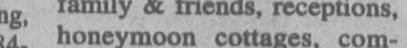
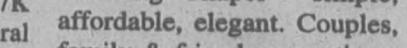
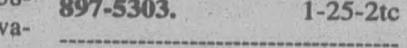
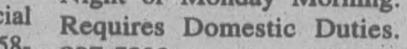
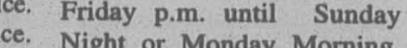
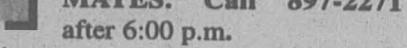
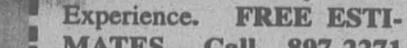
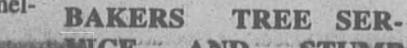
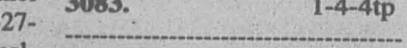
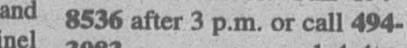
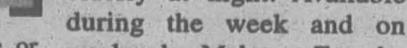
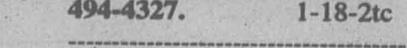
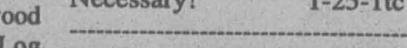
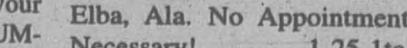
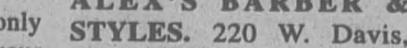
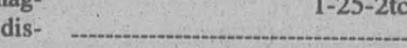
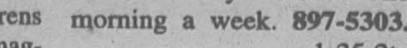
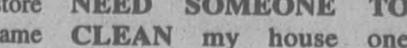
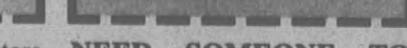
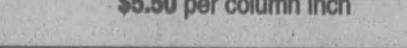
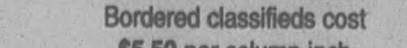
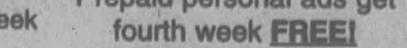
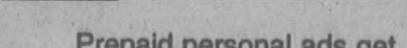
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Ceina Spicer speaks during Elba AARP Chapter meeting

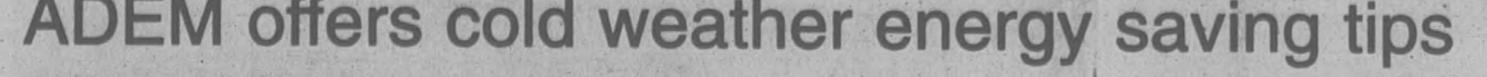
Additions to Elba Hospital and an explanation of services offered was the topic of the program presented by Ceina Spicer when members of the Elba AARP Chapter met at the Senior Center on Tuesday, Jan. 16, for their regular monthly dinner meeting.

President Edna Smart presided and after the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation, a buffet meal was served to 35 members and guests. Yearbooks for 2007 were distributed at the meeting. Jean Moore was recognized for planning programs and securing speakers for the past several years.

AARP is open to anyone over 50 years of age. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. Call Edna Smart for more information, 897-2879.

is Martha Guerrero, vice president.

2007 AARP officers include (left to right) Edna Smart, president; Alline Lee, treasurer; and Miriam McKnight, secretary. Not pictured is Martha Guerrero, vice president.



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DEM offers cold weather energy saving tips

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is encouraging everyone to be more energy efficient as more cold weather approaches. ADEM recommends checking for energy savings in the following areas: sealing and insulating, heating efficiency, changing lights, and powering down home electronics.

"Small actions like weather stripping windows and sealing around doors can keep you warmer and help you save money," said ADEM Director

Trey Glenn. "Taking a few steps to conserve energy in your home can help all Alabamians."

The average household spends \$1,500 per year on energy bills.

Close to 50 percent of that energy goes to heating and cooling your home. Lighting, appliances, and home electronic products like computers, televisions, and cell phone chargers take a significant share of home energy costs. However, there are ways to become more energy efficient.

"Small actions like weather stripping windows and sealing around doors can keep you warmer and help you save money," said ADEM Director

DEM offers these energy

saving tips:

- Heat your home wisely: Your heating system works hard during the winter to keep you warm.
- When it is working at top performance and your heating ducts are delivering warm air to your rooms effectively, you will be more comfortable and save money. Replace your furnace air filter before the heating season begins, because a dirty filter reduces air flow, which makes your system work harder using more energy.

Seal up your home: One of the most cost effective ways to reduce energy bills is to air-seal holes, cracks and openings in your home and add insulation to the floor of heat through the walls and ceiling.

Power down computers and electronics products: Computers and other electronics account for an increasing energy load in most homes, and often use energy even when switched off.

Activate your computer's power management features so it powers down when sitting idle.

Assured everyone this is something they are going to continue to see from his department.

Commissioners voted Monday to accept the new pay rates for the sheriff's department employees presented by Sheriff Sutton. Commissioner Thompson said it is his understanding the sheriff is trying to get all deputies at the same pay rate with the proposal. Also, Thompson noted the sheriff's rate is set by law.

Only Commissioner Doug Dalrymple voted against the new pay rate schedule indicated he was opposed to changing any rates at this time.

In other business, commissioners:

• Voted to accept a bid from

Unplug battery chargers and power adapters when not in use.

Change a light: Lighting our homes can represent 20 percent of home electricity bills and is one of the easiest places to start saving energy. Replace the five most frequently used light bulbs with energy-efficient replacements, and save close to \$60 a year.

Jayn Dyess of Elba celebrated her 52nd birthday Sunday, Jan. 21st. In honor of her special day, Jayn recently was treated by her friends at the Magic Mirror. Being a weekly visitor at the local hair salon, the ladies helped Jayn celebrate her birthday in style by hosting a birthday party. This has become an annual event for all the ladies.

12th Grade: Caleb Downing

(Continued from Page One)

CCC

Gemini Consultants for a Cama Server. The bid was for \$28,000. This was not the low bid, but commissioners said the low bid did not meet specifications. This passed by a 4-3 vote with commissioners Thompson, Dalrymple, Weeks and Tom Grimsley voting in favor. The opposing votes came from commissioners Stephens, Linda Westbrook and Berne Brooks.

• Approved a request from county engineer Randy Tindell to send out requests for proposals from timber companies for clear cutting and thinning of land at the landfill.

• Approved a motion made by

Commissioner Weeks for a resolution to authorize a grant application for a generator for the Coffee County Water Authority. Westbrook said the matching funds for this grant if approved will be \$10,525 and officials with the water authority have indicated the authority will pay these funds.

The next Coffee County Commission meeting will be held Monday, Feb. 12, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

• Approved a motion made by Commissioner Westbrook to send out bids for a septic tank at the Zion Chapel Senior Citizens Center.

• Approved a motion made by Commissioner Westbrook for a resolution to authorize a grant application for a generator for the Coffee County Water Authority. Westbrook said the matching funds for this grant if approved will be \$10,525 and officials with the water authority have indicated the authority will pay these funds.

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